

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /020 W
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R 160955Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7481
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 2071

USDOC FOR BEWT/TDAD/BOWIE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTIO RO

SUBJECT: COLOR TV PLANTS IN 1976-80 FIVE-YEAR PLAN

REF: USDOC 04402

1. AFTER DELAYS IN GETTING INFORMATION BY TELEPHONE, EMBOFF MET APRIL 15 WITH DIRECTOR ZAMFIRESCU AND CHIEF OF DEPT STOINA OF ELECTRONUM, FTO RESPONSIBLE FOR COLOR TV PROJECT. TRADE OPPORTUNITY TO PRODUCE COLOR TV RECEIVERS REMAINS AS REPORTED BUCHAREST 2473 (1975) AND BUCHAREST A-113 OF JUNE 6, 1975.

2. GOR WOULD LIKE TO PUT A COLOR TUBE PLANT INTO PRODUCTION IN 1978 OR 79, PROVIDED THEY CAN MAKE COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT WITH FOREIGN FIRM FOR EXPORT MARKETING. FOR REASONS OF EFFICIENCY, THEY ARE LOOKING FOR A CAPACITY OF 300,000 PIECES PER YEAR, MOST OF WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE EXPORTED. NO SIGNIFICANT DOMESTIC MARKET PLANNED. WHETHER THEY WILL EXPORT TUBES AS SUCH OR IN RECEIVERS WILL DEPEND UPON THE OFFERS THEY GET. DISCUSSIONS ON TUBE PLANT HAVE BEGUN WITH WESTINGHOUSE, ONLY US FIRM TO EXPRESS INTEREST. ELECTRONUM IS INTERESTED IN PHILLIPS TECHNOLOGY, BUT OFFICIALS WOULD NOT SAY WHAT OTHER FOREIGN FIRMS WERE INTERESTED, AND LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY HAD ATTRACTED FEW SO FAR. ELECTRONUM CANNOT BEGIN DISCUSSION OF TUBE GLASS MANUFACTURING UNTIL TECHNOLOGY FOR TUBES CHOSEN. THEY ARE IN CONTACT WITH CORNING, WHICH SUPPLIED EXISTING BLACK AND WHITE TUBE GLASS

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PLANT. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE COLOR TUBE PLANT PROJECT

DOES NOT ENJOY HIGH PRIORITY.

3. HIGH PRIORITY, AND URGENCY, IS FOR PRODUCTION OF SCANNING
DIODES AND THYRISTORS TO SPECIFICATIONS REPORTED BUCHAREST
A-113. NO US FIRMS HAVE MADE OFFERS SO FAR, AND OFFICIALS SAY IT
IS NOT TOO LATE. WESTINGHOUSE HAS TOLD ELECTRONUM THAT THEY DO
NOT MAKE THE TYPES REQUESTED EXCEPT IN A MILITARY VARIANT,
WHICH OF COURSE NOT ELEGIBLE FOR EXPORT. COULD YOU CHECK TO SEE
WHETHER OTHER FIRMS WOULD LIKE TO BID?
BARNES

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